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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO. [redacted]

TOPIC Soviet Troops in the Templin Maneuver Area

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EVALUATION [redacted]

PLACE OBTAINED [redacted]

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DATE OF CONTENT [redacted]

DATE OBTAINED [redacted]

DATE PREPARED 21 September 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

[redacted]

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1. About 300 troops, apparently recruits, were training near two temporary barracks and several earth bunkers in the wooded area west of the Hammelspring railroad station on 17 August 1950. They wore red-bordered black epaulets. Eight AT guns of about 80 mm caliber with crews of 15 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and four artillery pieces of 100 to 120 mm caliber were observed at range practice with live ammunition in the same vicinity. Another group of about 100 soldiers drilled with medium mortars. Motor vehicles [redacted]

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[redacted] entered the training area. Trucks [redacted] each towing an AT gun of about 60 mm caliber and carrying 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were en route to the training area, coming from the direction of Vogelsang. The trucks were followed by jeep [redacted]

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2. Trucks [redacted] arrived at the group of 8 to 12 temporary barracks and about 5 garages south of the training area. About 1,500 troops were training farther to the south. Three AT guns of about 100 mm caliber, five AT guns of about 100 mm caliber, two armored scout cars, eight medium mortars, four armored personnel carriers with 10 men each, trucks with mounted AA machine guns and several jeeps and motorcycles were observed with the troops. Reports by AT guns and artillery pieces were heard from the west.

3. About 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were at the infantry target ranges along the road leading to Storkow. A signal unit of about 100 men practiced with field radio sets. The soldiers carried assault packs.

4. Ammunition boxes were unloaded from seven railroad cars at the Hammelspring railroad station. They were labeled "82 mm ock" and "85 mm ock". One of these labels fell from a truck. [redacted] the ammunition was hauled away on trucks [redacted] Two railroad cars of vegetables were also seen at the station.

5. About 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen near the village of Vogelsang which seemed to be on the southern perimeter of the maneuver area. Training activity at Vogelsang was less intensive than in the Hammelspring area. Numerous tank officers and [redacted] were observed at the Vogelsang railroad station. [redacted] the station was used by the tank unit from the camp. Traffic of tank troops and motor vehicles [redacted]

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[redacted] were seen heading toward the woods west and north-west of the Vogelsang railroad station. Four tank officers and about 25 tank troopers boarded the Berlin-bound evening train and went as far as Oranienburg.

6. Between 17 and 19 August it was learned that the Soviet **komandatura** in Templin (N 54/U 81) had been moved from Markt to Bahnhofstrasse. The **komandatura** building now housed the municipal police authority. Next to the building was a special office in front of which passenger car [redacted] was seen. A wire ran between the office and the Soviet **komandatura**. *

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** [redacted] Comment. The report indicates that headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Secz Army and elements of both the 6th Gds Secz Div and the 25th Tank Div were still in the Templin maneuver area on 19 August 1950.